

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub A17 1. A resource reservation management apparatus for AV network that manages equipment resources connected to a network, comprising:

EPG processing means for acquiring starting/ending time information of a broadcast program from EPG (electronic program guide) that is sent while being superimposed on the broadcast wave;

frequency band information processing means for acquiring the frequency band information of the broadcast program;

frequency band resource management means for performing time management of the frequency band resource of the AV network by using a resource reservation management table;

a controller that, upon receiving a reservation request, acquires the frequency band of a reserved program of the request from said frequency band information processing means and the starting/ending time information of the reserved program from said EPG processing means and, with reference to said resource reservation management table, determines whether the frequency band of the reserved program can be allocated so that, when the frequency band can be allocated, reservation of the frequency band is registered in said resource reservation management table, and

communication via a communication interface using allocated secured frequency band is carried out when the start

time of the reserved program is reached.

2. A resource reservation management apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein

said frequency band information processing means acquires the frequency band information of the broadcast program with superimposed on said broadcast wave.

3. A resource reservation management apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein

said frequency band information processing means acquires the frequency band information of said broadcast program via the Internet.

4. A resource reservation management apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein

said frequency band information processing means acquires the frequency band information of said broadcast program from communication equipment.

5. A resource reservation management apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein

said frequency band information processing means acquires the frequency band information of said broadcast program from a recording medium.

6. A resource reservation management apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein

said frequency band information processing means acquires the frequency band information of said broadcast program from

information input by a user.

7. A resource reservation management apparatus as described in any of claims 1 through 6, wherein

in case transmission of a program is requested without reservation, said controller makes reference to said resource reservation management table thereby to determine whether the requested frequency band of the broadcast program can be allocated and, when the frequency band can be allocated, records the reservation of the frequency band in said resource reservation management table.

8. A resource reservation management apparatus as described in any of claims 1 through 6, wherein

a non-reservable frequency band is provided in said resource reservation management table.

9. A medium that carries programs and/or data for achieving all or part of the functions of all or part of the means of the resource reservation management apparatus as described in any of claims 1 through 6 and can be processed by means of a computer.

10. An information complex comprising programs and/or data for achieving all or part of the functions, of all or part of the means of the resource reservation management apparatus as described in any of claims 1 through 6, by means of a computer.